10/019019 Rec'd PCT/PTO 26 DEC 2001

216835US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

: ATTN: APPLICATION BRANCH

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

YOICHIRO IRITANI ET AL.

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN.

(Based on PCT/JP01/03625)

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: EVAPORATOR AND REFRIGERATOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 7 as shown in the marked-up copy attached to read as follows:

5 / (Amended) A refrigerator comprising:

an evaporator according to claim 1;

a compressor which compresses a vaporized cooling medium;

a condenser which condenses and liquefies a compressed cooling medium in a vaporized state; and

an expansion value which reduces a pressure of the cooling medium during a process of flowing a liquefied cooling medium to the evaporator.

#30/02